COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Association of Pennsylvania

www.pacounties.org
June 26, 2026

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE VOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

IN THIS EDITION

COUNTY LEADERS CALL FOR MODERNIZATION OF PENNSYLVANIA'S PROPERTY REASSESSMENT SYSTEM

County leaders from across Pennsylvania convened at the Perry County Courthouse on Monday, June 22, 2026, to advocate for a fair, predictable, and sustainable framework for county property reassessments.

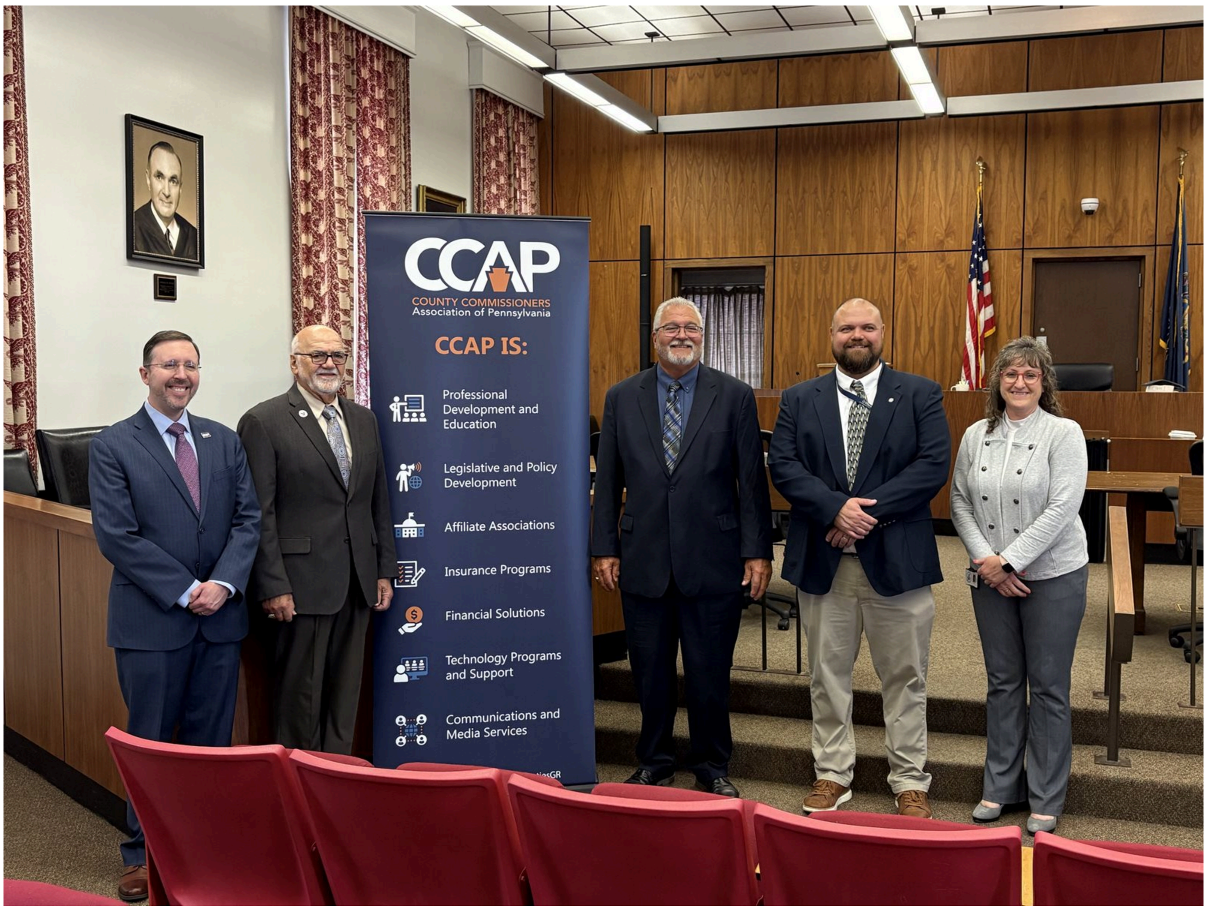
Counties are calling for a predictable reassessment schedule, dedicated funding to help counties manage implementation costs, and stronger statewide coordination and technical assistance. "Counties across Pennsylvania agree on a simple principle: property assessments should be fair, accurate, and reflective of current market conditions," said Huntingdon County Commissioner Jeff Thomas, chair of CCAP's Assessment and Taxation Policy Committee.

A phased implementation approach beginning in 2032 is supported by counties, gradually transitioning toward recurring reassessments on a staggered regional basis.

Pennsylvania currently has no required reassessment cycle and no statistical trigger to prompt reassessments when values drift from market conditions or accepted industry standards. County leaders emphasized that they are not seeking a state takeover of the process, but rather a stronger partnership that equips counties with the tools, resources, and technical support needed to maintain fair and equitable assessments.

"At its core, this conversation is about fairness. Property reassessments ensure that taxpayers are treated equitably," Kopko said. "Counties are committed to that goal, but they need the resources and support necessary to carry out this responsibility effectively."

For more information on the reassessment priority, visit the **CCAP Priorities webpage** or watch the **full press conference video**.



COUNTIES URGE INVESTMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

For more than 240 years, Pennsylvania's counties have worked in partnership with the Commonwealth to deliver essential public services, including 911, courts and corrections, and elections. Among the most critical of these responsibilities are human services programs that support some of our most vulnerable residents—children experiencing abuse or neglect, individuals living with mental illness or intellectual disabilities, people facing substance use disorders, and seniors in need of long-term care. These programs not only protect those in direct need, but also strengthen the safety, stability, and well-being of communities across the Commonwealth. Delivering these services requires a strong and reliable state–county partnership.

As the FY 2026–2027 budget remains under negotiation, counties caution that delayed or insufficient state funding risks destabilizing the human services system, limiting access to care, and increasing pressure on local taxpayers. Over the past year, many counties have already been forced to raise property taxes or reduce services to close funding gaps, and difficult decisions will continue as counties move into their upcoming budget cycles.

Counties' top budget priority for 2026 is a request for a **$40 million state investment** to address growing demand for behavioral health services, expand access to community-based care, and sustain critical local crisis response systems.

- **$20 million in county mental health base funding** to support community-based mental health services; and
- **$20 million dedicated to county mental health crisis services** to support county crisis infrastructure, including mobile crisis teams, crisis walk-in centers, and other local crisis response services.

This funding is separate from other mental health initiatives included in the Governor's proposal, such as school-based programs, and is intended to address longstanding underinvestment in county-operated systems. This investment would strengthen local capacity, improve access to timely care, and reduce wait times and service gaps for Pennsylvanians seeking community-based mental health support.

For more information on CCAP's mental health funding priority, please visit the **priorities webpage**.

DATA CENTER REGULATIONS GAIN MOMENTUM IN THE LEGISLATURE

The House advanced several bills this week aimed at establishing new requirements and oversight for data center development in Pennsylvania.

House Bill 2198, introduced by Rep. Greg Vitali (D-Delaware), would repeal the sales and use tax exemption for data center equipment that was enacted as part of the Tax Reform Code in 2021. The bill passed the House on June 25 and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

House Bill 2650, introduced by Rep. Joe Webster (D-Montgomery), would codify the Governor's Responsible Infrastructure Development (GRID) Standards into statute. The bill would require data center developers seeking Commonwealth tax incentives to demonstrate that projects support energy affordability, engage local communities, create jobs, and meet environmental standards. The House passed the bill on June 24 and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

House Bill 2496, introduced by Rep. Paul Friel (D-Chester), would amend the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code to give municipalities the option to temporarily pause the review of data center development applications for up to 180 days. The pause would allow municipalities to evaluate and update local land use ordinances related to data centers before considering new applications, with any ordinance changes applying to applications submitted during the pause. The bill passed the House on June 24 and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

House Bill 2359, introduced by Rep. Joe Ciresi (D-Montgomery), would prohibit government agencies and data center developers from entering into nondisclosure agreements that prevent public access to project information. The bill would also establish public notification and engagement requirements, including municipal notification, public meetings, consultation with local officials, and reporting on energy use, water consumption, and environmental impacts. The bill was reported from the House Energy Committee on June 17 and now awaits consideration by the full House.

CCAP will continue to monitor these proposals as they move through the legislative process and will provide timely updates on their progress and any potential implications for counties.

HOUSE PASSES MEASURES IMPACTING COUNTIES

Over the past two weeks, the Pennsylvania House has continued to advance legislation of interest to counties, sending two bills to the Senate for further consideration.

On June 17, the House passed **House Bill 2299**, introduced by Rep. Ryan Bizzarro (D-Erie), which expands the categories of law enforcement officers covered under Pennsylvania's wiretapping and law enforcement recording laws. The bill adds an additional category of law enforcement officers to existing provisions that authorize officers to record oral communications while performing their official duties and updates the Judicial Code to require officers to be subject to the same recording requirements as other law enforcement personnel. The bill now awaits consideration in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 2437, introduced by Rep. Nate Davidson (D-Dauphin), passed the House Transportation Committee on Tuesday, June 9. This legislation would amend the Oil and Gas Act to allow a portion of unconventional gas well fee revenues to fund bridge projects, which is a significant step forward. This change enables counties to proactively repair locally owned bridges before they reach critical risk, rather than addressing deterioration after it occurs. Expanding the allowable use of funds to include any county or municipal bridge provides counties with a more flexible funding stream, empowering them to address and rebuild critical infrastructure more effectively. The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

As both bills move through the Senate, CCAP will continue to monitor their progress and provide updates to counties on any significant legislative developments.

HOUSE ADVANCES BILLS WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNTIES

Over the past two weeks, two bills affecting county operations advanced in the House. Both measures continue to move through the legislative process, and counties are reviewing the potential administrative and fiscal impacts of each proposal.

On June 24, the House Children and Youth Committee passed **House Bill 151**, introduced by Rep. Rick Krajewski (D-Philadelphia). The bill would update Pennsylvania's Children in Foster Care Act by creating new requirements for how county children and youth agencies help children in foster care access and manage federal Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefits. Counties would be required to determine whether children are eligible for benefits, assist with applications and appeals, manage benefits when serving as a representative payee, and comply with new reporting and financial management requirements. The bill also directs the Department of Human Services to develop implementation guidance and requires the Joint State Government Commission to study the administrative and fiscal impacts before the new requirements take effect.

Counties have expressed concerns about the additional administrative responsibilities, reporting requirements, and potential need for additional staffing and resources to implement the legislation. While the bill requires an impact study, the full fiscal effect on counties remains uncertain. The bill now heads to the full House for consideration.

On June 16, the House Finance Committee advanced **House Bill 2610**, introduced by Rep. Justin Fleming (D-Dauphin), which would establish a statewide electronic repository for Commonwealth tax liens, replacing the current practice of filing liens individually with county prothonotaries. Under the proposal, once a tax liability is finalized and entered into the state system, it would automatically attach as a lien to all of a taxpayer's property across the Commonwealth. Beginning in fiscal year 2027-2028, the Department of Revenue would make annual payments to county prothonotaries based on the historical average number of Commonwealth tax lien filings rather than counties collecting filing fees directly.

Counties are evaluating the potential administrative and fiscal impacts of the proposal, including changes to existing filing processes and the proposed reimbursement structure. The bill now heads to the full House for consideration.

CCAP will continue to monitor both bills as they move through the legislative process and keep counties informed of any significant developments.

OMB PROPOSES FEDERAL GRANT RULE CHANGES

On May 29, 2026, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a proposed rule that would significantly update the federal regulations governing grants and other forms of federal financial assistance. If finalized, the revisions would affect many federal grant programs that counties administer, including funding for public safety, transportation, public health, housing, emergency management, and other local services. Comments on the proposed rule are due July 13, 2026.

Counties are encouraged to review the proposed rule and consider submitting comments to OMB. To assist counties, the National Association of Counties (NACo) has developed a **resource hub** that includes a **high-level overview** of the proposed changes, a detailed analysis, a **customizable template comment letter**, and information on upcoming office hours. Counties can use these resources to better understand the proposal and prepare comments that reflect local priorities and potential impacts on county programs and services.

SUPPORT THE 21ST CENTURY ROAD TO HOUSING ACT

On Tuesday, June 23, Congress passed the **21st Century ROAD to Housing Act**, the most significant federal housing legislation in more than a decade. The bill now heads to the President's desk; however, the President has indicated he will not sign the legislation unless additional negotiations take place.

In response, the National Association of Counties (NACo) has issued an urgent call to action, noting that the legislation reflects many of the priorities counties have long championed and provides critical new tools to help address housing challenges nationwide.

The 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act would provide counties with:

- Permanent authorization of the Community Development Block Grant–Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program.
- Expanded CDBG flexibility to support new housing construction.
- HOME program reforms to address workforce housing needs and improve neighborhood infrastructure.
- Streamlined environmental reviews for low-impact housing projects.
- Greater flexibility to strengthen local homelessness response efforts.

NACo and CCAP urge county leaders to act today:

- Contact the White House and encourage the President to sign the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act without delay.

For a full breakdown of the bill, visit **NACo's website**.

IFO RELEASES OFFICIAL REVENUE UPDATES

The Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) released its **official revenue estimate** for Fiscal Year 2026-27, updating its projections for the current fiscal year and providing the official revenue forecast that will help inform budget negotiations. The report raises the FY 2025-2026 General Fund revenue estimate upward by $904 million to $48.8 billion, reflecting stronger-than-expected tax collections driven by higher consumer spending, increased business investment, and stronger personal income tax revenues. For FY 2026-2027, the IFO projects General Fund revenues of approximately $49.7 billion, representing a 1.9% increase over the current fiscal year.

The updated estimate is based on expectations of continued economic growth, including strong corporate profits, steady consumer spending, and ongoing investment in technology and artificial intelligence. At the same time, the IFO projects revenue growth will moderate in FY 2026-2027 as business investment and consumer spending return to more typical levels and several one-time revenue gains from the current fiscal year are not expected to continue. The estimate is based on current law and does not include any revenue or policy changes proposed in the Governor's FY 2026-27 budget.

CCAP
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Association of Pennsylvania

County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania
PO Box 60769 | Harrisburg, PA 17106-0769